

Fisher

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Fisher

Building Momentum

Collaborative Action Research



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638 A Schedule of Events

Newsgroup Location : [Code on Bleu](#)

week of	Topic	Discussion Synch/Asynch
September 11	Get books and explore syllabus and project options	
September 18	Open House	Synch
September 25	Action Research - What is it?	Synch
October 2	Practice - What is it?	Synch
October 9	Local Issue	Asynch
October 16	Local Issues- Respond to peers	Asynch
October 23	Local Issues - Where are we at?	Synch
October 30	Literature Review	Synch
November 6	Literature Review - Finding Resources	Asynch
November 13	Refine problem, locate resources, begin plan	Asynch
November 20	Lit Review Due	Asynch
November 27	Questions about Plan	Synch
December 3	Plan Due	Asynch

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EDC 638A Readings

Two required books and sundry bits and pieces of stuff...

McNiff, Lomax, and Whitehead - You and Your Action Research -- This book will serve us through the first two semesters of the program. We'll get through page 104 this semester, learning what action research is, why and when it's valuable, and how to do it in your local setting. By the end of the semester you should have a good first whack at your plan.

Choose one of the following:

Larson: Making Conversation

This is geared toward educators--a book on dialogue and its impact on transforming both an individual and his school (well, at least some of his school).

Dixon: Dialogue at Work

This is geared toward business--a book looking at five models of dialogue and how talk can be developmental to change within the individual and the corporation.
 note: Although I have indicated that one book is about education and one is about business, you are welcome to choose the one that interests you despite your workplace. Certainly, listening to Larson's narrative about his transformation is valuable if you like first person accounts. And Dixon's methodical look at dialogue models helps one to pick a model that might work in a particular situation.

Perspectives on Dialogue: Making Talk Developmental for Individuals and Organizations - Dixon-- This book will help you recognize the value of talk and ways to think more consciously about your interactions in supporting and developing others. You will find a good bit of the "data" of your action research project coming from conversations.

Also helpful:

WiReD magazine -- The WiReD site offers selected reprints from past monthly issues. You will find this site and its articles useful, but you are also required to read current issues of the magazine. You can find WiReD at Barnes and Noble, Borders, and other large bookstores with good periodical racks. I recommend you subscribe, but won't require it. Begin with the August issue if you can still find it; the September issue is already out.

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ERIC Searches-- On your own you should be reading other materials about the topics related to your issue. Part of what you will do starting in October and the beginning of November is to read books peculiar to your ARP. Mentoring books for mentors...Community of practice books...Differentiated learning...Constructivism or constructionism...whatever it is that fits what you are studying. You do not reinvent the wheel with your ARP. You take what others have done or said and see how it applies to your situation. A good way to find these books is to read journals and look at the references or bibliography at the end of the article or book. Those are usually the meatier books. And certainly, if I find stuff that I think is appropriate to the conversation at hand, I will post the link for your perusal and discussion. The ERIC Searches will familiarize you with the Educational Resources Information Center database that is available on the Internet. Contrast relevant literature on your topic. ERIC can be accessed from your home if you have a computer and a modem or from one of the campus computers with Internet access. Search for references to the educational subject that interests you, such as the topic you choose for your exploration. ERIC is available online at <http://ericir.syr.edu/Eric/>. ERIC is also available on CD-ROM in the Reference Room in most libraries; this version sometimes easier and faster to use than the web version; however, you usually need a reservation to use the computer in the library.

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(revised 9/25/2001)

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week of	Topic	Discussion Synch/Asynch
September 11	Get books and explore syllabus and project options	
September 18	Open House	Tuesday 7 am and 7 PM PST
September 25	Chap. 1, You and Your Action Research , McNiff	Canceled due to family emergency
October 2	Chap. 2, You and Your Action Research , McNiff Action Research - What is it?	Tuesday 7 am and 7 PM PST
October 9	Chap. 3 & 4, You and Your Action Research , McNiff Practice - What is it? Start weekly journal entries linked to your web page.	Asynch
October 16	Chap. 5 & 6, You and Your Action Research , McNiff Local Issues	Asynch
October 23	Chap. 7, You and Your Action Research , McNiff Local Issues - Respond to peers	Tuesday 7 am and 7 PM PST
October 30	Literature Review	Tuesday 7 am and 7 PM PST
November 6	Literature Review - Finding Resources	Asynch
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December 3	Plan Due	Asynch
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Calendar

Date	Topic	Asynch/Synch	Book/Resource	Assignment Due
September 5	Syllabus / Assignments	Tapped In/Office Hours		
September 12	Learning vs. Transfer	Tapped In	Bransford et al - Chp. 3	
September 19	Behaviorism to Constructionism	Asynch	Bransford et al- Chp. 4 Internet resources	Group Web Site - Learning Theories
September 26	Where is the Brain?	Tapped In	Learning Theory web sites	
October 3	ZPD	Asynch	Bransford et al- pg. 69 Internet resources	
October 10	Experts vs. Novices (Apprenticeship)	Tapped In	Bransford et al- Chp. 2 Scardamalia + Bereiter- Chp. 1 - 6	
October 17	Scaffolding	Asynch	Scardamalia + Bereiter pg. 167 - 181 Additional Internet Resources	Web site: ZPD or Scaffolding
October 24	Learning Environments as Nonexpert Societies	Tapped In	Scardamalia + Bereiter Chp. 7 - 8	
October 31	CoPs: Practice	Asynch	Wenger - Introduction, Part I	
November 7	Participation / Reification	Tapped IN	Wenger - Part I	
November 14	Boundaries + Peripheral Participation	Asynch	Wenger - Part I	
November 21	Design for Learning	Asynch	Wenger - Epilogue	
November 28	Learning Architectures	Tapped In		
December 5	Communities of Practice Online	Tapped In	12 Principles of Civilization	

December 12	Final Project Due	Asynch		Final Project
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For asynchronous dialogue we will use the following newsgroup: